

# Outdoor Report

The week of September, 22<sup>th</sup> 2014



*South Dakota*



## Wildlife Division

**"Serving People, Managing Wildlife"**

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- East River Deer applications must be postmarked by September, 26<sup>th</sup>, or folks can apply online by October 1<sup>st</sup>, by 8:00 a.m. CDT.
  - Archery Deer opens this weekend September 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Duck season opens this weekend September 27<sup>th</sup> and runs through December 9<sup>th</sup>. Daily limit is 6 birds per day and possession limit is 2x the daily limit.
  - Light/White-fronted Goose season is September 27<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - Sandhill Crane seasons open this weekend September 27<sup>th</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Youth only Pheasant season runs October 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - Tundra Swan season runs October 4<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - Antelope Rifle season dates are October 4<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Black Hills Elk Rifle season dates are October 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>.
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## Brown County



### Fishing Report:

**Richmond Lake:** Anglers are catching Bluegill, Bullheads, Catfish and the occasional Crappie. The Walleye bite has been slow. **Anglers are reminded that Walleye need to be 15 inches or longer to keep.**

**Elm Lake:** Anglers are catching Walleye, Crappie and Northern Pike. The bite has been inconsistent lately. **Anglers are reminded that Walleye need to be 15 inches or longer to keep.**

**James River:** Anglers have been catching Catfish and Bullheads. The Walleye bite has been slow lately.

**Elm River:** Anglers are catching some Northern Pike and Walleye.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Hunters had decent success this past weekend hunting geese. Hunters have had the best success hunting wheat stubble. Scouting is the key to success. The best goose hunting has been on the eastern side of Brown County.

**Dove:** With the cooler weather last week, some doves migrated out of the area. Brown County still has huntable numbers of doves, especially in southern Brown County. Dove hunters are still having the best success in harvested wheat fields or by water.

**East River Deer:** The second deadline is open to residents only. All of the Brown County deer licenses sold out on the first drawing. There are still antlerless deer licenses available in Edmunds, McPherson, Faulk and Spink counties.

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## Clark County



### Fishing Report:

**Dry Lake #2:** The bite continues to be slow. A few fishermen are having success catching some nice Perch and a few Walleyes.

**Dry Lake #1:** Little activity.

**Swan Lake:** The bite continues to be slow. A few Northern Pike and small Walleye are being caught.

**Reid Lake:** Little activity.

**Indian Springs:** Fishing continues to be slow. A few fishermen are catching some decent sized Walleye and Perch.



### Hunting Report:

**Waterfowl:** A few areas of the county have some good numbers of geese staged in them. Little hunting pressure has occurred the past couple of weeks and hunters are reporting low success. Good numbers of ducks around the area, which should provide good hunting opportunity for duck hunters.

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## Codington County



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Kampeska:** Fishing activity is slow this past week. The number of boats trying their luck has dropped. Shore fishing has been minimal. It is best in the early mornings and evenings.

**Pelican Lake:** Very slow this week with an occasional Pike or Walleye being caught.

**Goose Lake:** Limits of Walleye are being caught. Most Walleye are in the 14 to 15 inch range with the occasional larger one. A few bonus Perch are also mixed in the live wells.

**Long Lake:** No reports.

**Dry Lake:** The bite is pretty consistent again this week. This is still a good lake to catch Walleye and Perch and the occasional Pike.

**Grass Lake:** No activity.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Ave Pond:** Still offering good opportunity to youngsters in and around town to catch Bluegill or Trout.



## Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Codington County hunter reports indicate decent harvest so far. Silage fields are coming out so this should open up more opportunity. Most geese are in the western part of the county. There is still some good opportunities to bag some geese as temperatures cool off; just need to put in a little scouting time.

**Dove:** Still some opportunity for harvesting some dove. With the cooler temps the doves have grouped up a little, but still can be found in certain areas.

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## Day County



### Fishing Report:

**Bitter:** Most anglers are having decent success catching Walleye and a few Perch in shallower waters. Anglers are also having some decent success catching Walleye from shore.

**Waubay:** The Walleye bite has increased with anglers still catching good numbers of White Bass.

**Reetz:** Still seeing on average 3 to 6 boats at the ramp. Anglers are catching a few nice Crappie and Perch.

**Lynn:** Anglers are still catching some nice Walleye and a few Perch.

**Pickrel:** Little activity.

**Enemy Swim:** Anglers are reporting the Bluegill bite has slowed.

**Blue Dog:** Little activity.

**Rush:** Little activity.

**Horseshoe:** Fishing activity has increased over the last week. Some anglers are catching some nice Walleye and occasional Perch.



## Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Most hunters struggled this past weekend harvesting geese. However, some groups did have decent success. A few bean and corn fields are being harvested, creating more diverse opportunity for hunters.

**Dove:** A few doves remain in the area, but most have moved out due to the cooler temperatures.

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## Deuel County



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Alice:** A good number of Northern Pike are being caught. Boat activity has been slow. A few anglers are having some luck from shore on the east side of the lake. The best fishing has been during the half hour after sunset.

**Bullhead Lake:** Fishing has been slow. A few anglers are picking up some Perch and the occasional Walleye.

**Round Lake:** A few Northern Pike are being caught from shore.

**Lake Oliver:** No activity.

**School Lake:** No activity.

**Fish Lake:** No activity.

**Lake Ketchum:** Anglers are still catching some Perch. Most of the Perch are small, but there are a few nicer ones mixed in.

**Lake Cochrane:** No activity.

**Clear Lake:** Very little fishing activity. A few Northern Pike can be caught from shore. No reports of Walleye activity.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** There are decent numbers of geese throughout the county. The majority of the birds are in the northwest portion of the county. There are good numbers of geese around Clear Lake, as well.

**Dove:** There are still some doves around the area. A lot of doves have moved out with some colder overnight temperatures a few weeks back, but there is still some opportunity.

**Duck:** Duck numbers are pretty good in the area. Almost every small slough in the county has a few ducks. The southeast corner of the county should provide the best opportunity to shoot a couple of ducks on the first weekend.

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## Faulk County



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Faulkton:** No fishing activity observed.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** There are a few pockets of birds in the eastern and northern portions of the county. Scouting is key to finding the fields they are feeding in.

**Dove:** There are still decent numbers of doves in the county.

**East River Deer:** There are still antlerless deer licenses available in Faulk County.

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## Grant County



### Fishing Report:

**Big Stone Lake:** The Perch bite continues to be pretty good. Anglers are catching most of their Perch while anchoring up along rock piles and using a small hook with spikes. Anglers have also reported catching Perch on small plugs. Walleye reports have been slow, but activity should be picking up as we go further into the fall.

**Summit Lake:** No reports of activity.

**Hunter's Quarry:** Fishing pressure has been slow, but the opportunity to catch Trout still exists.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Goose numbers continue to be pretty good in the area. Farmers are starting to cut some silage, but as of right now, most of the geese are still targeting the small grain fields. Scouting is very important to have success.

**Dove:** The opportunity to hunt doves still exists, but there have been a lot of doves that have left the area.

**Duck:** There is a pretty good population of local ducks around the area. Hunters will find best success hunting the small ponds scattered throughout the county. Blue-winged Teal seem to be the most prevalent duck in the area.

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## Hamlin County



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Poinsett:** The fishing continues to remain slow. No reports of consistent Walleye or Perch coming off the water.

**Fedt Slough:** A few shore fishermen from time to time are reporting the occasional Walleye or Perch.

**Three Buck:** No report.

**Clear Lake (Thomas):** Some Perch are being caught.

**Lake Norden:** No traffic this week on Norden.

**Lake Albert:** Slow this week.

**Lake Mary/John:** No activity.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Slow again this past week, but the hunters who put the time in scouting were able to find fields and did well. Silage fields are coming out to offer more opportunity. The southeast portion of the county, by Mickelson Marsh, offered the best opportunity, but good numbers of geese can be found in the western part of the county, as well.

**Dove:** Doves are grouped up due to the cooler temps, but still a good opportunity to harvest.

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## Marshall County



### Fishing Report:

**White Lake:** Slow.

**Piyas Lake:** Anglers are still catching Walleye and Perch.

**Opitz Lake:** Anglers are still catching Walleye in the mornings and evenings, pulling bottom bouncers with crawlers.

**South Buffalo:** Anglers are catching a few Bluegills, with the occasional Walleye and Northern Pike.

**Stink Lake:** Slow.

**Cattail Grade:** Slow.

**Roy Lake:** Anglers are catching Smallmouth Bass, Walleye and a few Perch with the occasional Northern Pike.

**Clear Lake:** Anglers are catching Smallmouth Bass and Bluegill, with the occasional Walleye in the mornings and evenings. **Reminder: If you catch a tagged Smallmouth Bass – do not remove the tag; call the number listed on the tag to assist in the current study being conducted on this lake.**



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Seems like the geese have transitioned over from feeding in wheat to now feeding in corn that is being cut for silage. Best spot for hunting geese seems to be on the eastern side of the county. Scouting is the key to success and make sure to have permission before entering private land.

**Dove:** Majority of doves have left the area.

**Duck:** Duck numbers look good across the county. Be sure to scout and find your spot for Saturday morning. Good luck, be safe and make sure to obtain permission before entering private land.

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## McPherson & Edmunds Counties



### Fishing Report:

**Scatterwood Lake:** Fishing has slowed down.

**Long Lake:** No activity.

**Eureka Lake:** No activity.

**Mina Lake:** Very little fishing activity.

**Anderson Slough:** No activity.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** McPherson County is not holding very many geese. Most geese in this area can be found from Roscoe to Bowdle and up to the Hosmer area. There is very little hunting pressure. Hunters hunting in wheat fields are doing the best. Some silage has been cut, but not many geese using the fields yet.

**Dove:** Not many around the area.

**Grouse:** Grouse numbers are low. McPherson County is the best place to try.

**Duck:** Good numbers of ducks in both counties. The Loyalton to Roscoe area is holding the largest concentration of ducks. Some good pockets of ducks can be found in both counties.

**East River Deer:** There are still antlerless deer licenses available in Edmunds and McPherson counties.

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## Roberts County



### Fishing Report:

**Lake Traverse:** Fishing activity is low, but anglers are having decent success on Walleye, White Bass and Catfish.  
**Dry Wood Lake:** Slow with little to no activity.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** Goose hunters are finding plenty of birds. Corn is getting cut for silage, allowing more opportunity for hunters to get in the fields. This upcoming weekend's waterfowl opener should be pretty decent, with a lot of ducks and geese in the area. Scouting is the key.

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## Spink County



### Fishing Report:

**Twin Lake:** Anglers are still catching an occasional Walleye.  
**Mud Lake:** No fishing activity observed.  
**Cottonwood Lake:** Fishing activity is slow.  
**Redfield Lake:** Anglers are catching some Bullheads.  
**Turtle Creek:** No fishing activity observed.  
**James River:** Anglers are catching some nice Catfish. The river level is lowering.



### Hunting Report:

**Goose:** There were a lot of silage fields being cut this past week. The geese should begin to transfer to feeding in those fields.  
**Dove:** There are still decent numbers of doves in the county.  
**East River Deer:** There are still antlerless deer licenses available in Spink County.